

3-20-07

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:) Art Unit: (N/A)
GadTERLIUC) Examiner: (N/A)
. Serial No.: (N/A) 10/1588131) Washington, D.C.
Filed: July 31, 2006) March 15, 2007
For: ENDOSCOPE ASSEMBLY) Docket No.: 4529/97913

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [IDS]

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above-identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

[X] I. This IDS should be considered, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, as it is filed:

(Check one of the boxes A-D)

A. within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application or within three months of the entry into the national stage of the above-identified international application.

[X] B. before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

C. after (A) and (B) above, but before final rejection or allowance, and Applicants have made the necessary certification (box IIi^{ll} below) or paid the necessary fee (box IIii^{ll} below).

(check one of the boxes IIi^{ll} and IIjjll below:)

I. Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was either (a) cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or (b) was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was not known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop _____, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date.

3/19/07 *Shanti T. R. Shanti*

Date Express Mail Label No. 27466 Reg. Number

EV555562335

ii. A check for the fee set forth in 1.17(p), presently believed to be \$240, is enclosed
(check no.).

D. after (A), (B) and (C) above, but before payment of the issue fee: Applicant petitions under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) for the consideration of this IDS. A check for the fee set forth in S1.17(i), presently believed to be \$130 is enclosed (check no.). Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was either (i) cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS; or (ii) was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was not known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

2. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, this IDS includes a list (e.g., form PTO-1449) of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the office, either incorporated into this IDS or as an attachment hereto. A copy of each document listed is attached, except as explained below.

(check boxes A and/or B and fill in blanks, if appropriate.)

A. Document(s) is (are) deemed substantially cumulative to document(s)
_____, and, in accordance with 1.98(c), only a copy of each of the latter documents is enclosed.

B. Certain documents were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the following prior application(s), which are relied upon under 35 U.S.C. 120:

[insert serial numbers and filing dates of prior applications]

Applicant identifies these documents by attaching hereto copies of the forms PTO-892 and PTO-1449 from the files of the prior application(s) or a fresh PTO-1449 listing these documents, and request that they be considered and made of record in accordance with 1.98(d). Per 37 CFR 1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be filed in this application.

3. Documents __ is (are) not in the English language. In accordance with 1.98(c), Applicant states:

An English translation of each document __ (or of the pertinent portions thereof), or a copy of each corresponding English-language patent or application, or English language abstract (or claim) is enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) is found in the attached search report (see reply to Comment 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).

A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) is set forth as follows:
[Insert concise explanation of relevance]

A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) can be found on page(s) of the specification.

A concise explanation of document(s) can be found on the attached sheet.

4. No explanation of relevance is necessary for documents in the English language (see reply to Comments 67 and 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 00 13 at 20).

5. Other information being provided for the examiner's consideration follows:

6. In accordance with 37 C.P.R. 1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 91.56 (b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

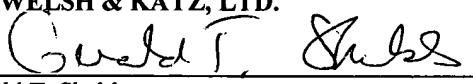
CROSS REFERENCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.1.78 TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Pursuant to 37 C.P.R. 91.78, Applicant notes that the above-identified patent application may be related to the following U.S. Patent Applications:

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By


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Date: March 15, 2007 Page 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449 (Colb)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 4529/97913	SERIAL NUMBER (N/A)
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANTS' INFORMATION STATEMENT		APPLICANT Gad TERLIUC	EXAMINER (N/A)
		FILING DATE July 31, 2006	GROUP ART UNIT (N/A)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB	FILING DATE
	AA	4,040,413	08-1977	Ohshiro			
	AB	4,176,662	12-1979	Frazer			
	AC	5,662,587	09-1997	Grundfest, et al.			
	AD	2002/0156347	10-2002	Kim, et al.			
	AE	6,007,482	12-1999	Madni, et al.			
	AF	6,162,171	12-2000	Ng, et al.			
	AG	4,148,307	04-1979	Utsugi			
	AH	4,676,228	06-1987	Krasner, et al.			
	AI	6,702,735	03-2004	Kelly			
	AJ						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB	TRANSLATION
	AK						

OTHER ART (Including Author, Bills, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AL	U.S. Provisional Patent Application Number 60/542,680, filed February 9, 2004.
AM	U.S. Provisional Patent Application Number 60/559,461, filed April 6, 2004.

EXAMINER: _____ DATE CONSIDERED: _____

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.